



COUNTRYSIDE BITS AND BITES.....

By: County of Thorhild Agricultural Services
Phone: 780-398-3978

Weeds are species introduced deliberately or unintentionally outside of their natural habitats. In this new environment, free from their natural 'enemies', non-native plants have an advantage that allows them to out-compete native plants and agricultural crops for space, moisture and nutrients.



Canada Thistle

Legislation in Alberta, the Alberta Weed Control Act recognizes these three classes of weeds and is in place to keep these problem weeds from being introduced to Alberta or from spreading if they are already present. Each class of weeds is treated differently.

An inspector who finds any restricted or noxious weeds in or on any land, premises, vehicle, standing crop, machine, grain, elevator, crop processing plant, or equipment shall give notice to destroy the restricted weeds, and may give notice to control noxious weeds. For nuisance weeds the inspector may issue a notice to prevent the spread of these weeds.

RESTRICTED WEEDS:
Restricted weeds are usually found in very few regions of Alberta. They are designated Restricted to prevent their establishment.

NOXIOUS WEEDS:
These weeds have the ability to spread rapidly, and cause severe crop losses and economic hardship. Noxious weeds should be controlled to prevent further establishment, and spread into cropland.

NUISANCE WEEDS:
These weeds are very common and can be found on nearly all land throughout the Province, and as such are very difficult to eradicate.

Weed Control is by legislation the responsibility of the landowner and the occupant.

Control Methods

When selecting a control method, it is important to note that different species respond differently to each method. The most efficient programs will have an integrated control plan that includes both prevention and one or more of the following control methods:

- **Mowing / Cutting**
- **Hand Pulling**
- **Herbicide Application**—for proper herbicide selections please see your local agronomist.
- **Biological Control**



Scentless chamomile

A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows.

To protect the environment, and guard the productivity of the land, the threat of weeds must be taken seriously!



Common Tansy

What is Prevention?

- Knowing how to identify invasive plants
 - Avoid walking/driving/riding through invasive plant infestations
 - Remove seed & invasive plants parts from clothing, pets & vehicles and dispose properly (landfill-bound garbage, burning)
 - Don't grow invasive ornamentals
 - Feed 'weed-free' forage to livestock
- Keep gravel and fill piles free of

DID YOU KNOW?

As native plants are replaced by invasives, biodiversity declines and habitats change. These impacts are like a ripple on a pond - affecting wildlife, ecosystem functions, natural resources, recreation and industry.

Weeds

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| i | t | h | i | s | t | l | e | c | n | a | s | i | u | n |
| t | s | l | x | p | l | a | n | d | o | w | n | e | r | |
| d | o | x | e | y | e | d | a | i | s | y | d | v | i | l |
| g | e | e | d | g | l | g | r | g | g | i | a | s | e | |
| d | y | t | i | l | i | b | i | s | n | o | p | s | e | r |
| r | o | t | c | e | p | s | n | i | n | x | s | i | i | u |
| v | l | a | i | i | i | n | l | o | g | p | u | v | c | t |
| s | e | n | b | t | r | l | i | a | e | x | o | e | e | l |
| g | i | s | r | e | u | t | r | l | t | a | i | p | p | u |
| h | g | y | e | p | n | d | s | b | l | i | x | l | s | c |
| s | t | i | h | e | e | c | d | e | i | o | a | a | i | |
| e | c | p | v | n | i | i | r | r | h | n | n | t | r | |
| r | u | e | s | a | c | o | n | t | r | o | l | t | g | g |
| t | r | t | p | e | a | o | l | a | p | a | d | s | p | a |
| p | t | c | a | d | e | e | w | t | e | s | a | n | p | l |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| agriculture gardens invasive plants noxious prevention restricted thistle | alberta herbicide landowner nuisance pulling species weed act | control inspector legislation oxeye daisy responsibility tansy |
|---|---|---|

RESOURCES:

Alberta Ag-Info Centre
www.agric.gov.ab.ca
1-866-882-7677

Alberta Invasive Plants Council
www.invasiveplants.ab.ca

Alberta Weed Control Act
www.qp.alberta.ca

www.topcropmanager.com

Give a weed an inch and it will take a yard.